SLIM CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

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Date: March 3/03

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Date: March 5/03

Slim Creek Provincial Park
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Slim Creek Provincial Park is located along Highway 16, approximately 110 km east of Prince George. This 506-ha park protects an old-growth cedar-hemlock forest, alluvial terraces and wetlands in the Upper Fraser Trench and Caribou Mountains ecosections. Most of the park supports a very wet, cool Interior Cedar Hemlock biogeoclimatic subzone, while very wet, cool Sub-Boreal Spruce is found at higher elevations.

A variety of fish species are found in Slim Creek, including burbot, chinook salmon, Dolly Varden, lake chub, longnose dace, longnose sucker, mountain whitefish, peamouth chub, rainbow trout, redside shiner, and sculpin.

The park was a long standing ecological reserve proposal (ERP 214) prior to being recommended for park status by the Prince George Land and Resource Management Plan in 1999. The purpose of the ecological reserve was to conserve an example of an interior western red cedar – western hemlock forest.

Primary Role
The primary role of Slim Creek Provincial Park is to protect an interior western red cedar – western hemlock forest and special habitat and ecosystem features of the Upper Fraser Trench Ecosection.

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Known Management Issues	**Response**
Determine most appropriate designation	Undertake an evaluation to determine if the designation of Slim Creek should be changed from Class A park to an ecological reserve.
Timber Theft	Sign the boundaries of the park. Increase staff presence through periodic site visits and monitor the situation.

Zoning

The entire park (506 ha) is zoned Natural Environment.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection

Small contribution to the under-represented Upper Fraser Trench Ecosection. 7.24% of this ecosection is protected by 4 protected areas. Slim Creek is the smallest of these and contributes only 2.68% towards overall provincial representation of this ecosection. Also makes a very minor contribution to the representation of the Caribou Mountains Ecosection

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Minor representation of:
ICHvk2: 10.43% protected; Slim Creek contributes only 2.8% of the overall protected areas system representation of this variant.
SBSvk: only 3.62% protected; Slim Creek contributes only 1.1% of the overall protected areas system representation of this variant.

Special Feature X Old growth forest, wetlands and alluvial terraces

Rare/Endangered Values Unknown

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation

- backcountry
- destination
- travel corridor

X Potential travel rest stop /day use recreation along Highway 16. This function would not be appropriate if the area's designation is changed to an ecological reserve.

- local recreation

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities X Easy access to diverse ecosystem and habitat types; potential wildlife viewing

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation unknown

Special Feature unknown

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs	X	Slim Creek Provincial Park complements other protected areas that represent the Upper Fraser Trench (including Sugarbowl/Grizzly Den, West Twin, and Jackman Flats) by protecting features of old growth forest, alluvial terraces, and wetland.
Co-operative Management Arrangements		
Partnerships		
Vulnerability	X	The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 2 risk factors (the shape and the size of the park) for the park and rated them as highly significant. Three stressors/threats were identified for the park: Forest harvesting activity was rated as highly significant; roadways which was rated as moderately significant; and log theft which was rated as low significance.
Relationship to Other Strategies	X	Prince George LRMP

Area: 506 hectares
Date of establishment: June 29, 2000

Zoning Map - Slim Creek Provincial Park

Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

Produced in Apr 2003 for Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection by MSRM, Decision Support Services

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